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No. 201

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HIMES).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 23, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMES A. HIMES to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

What great love You have lavished on us. We look around and see how transformed the world can be just by city lights and colorful neighborhood decorations. But in this special time may we come to realize that the spirit of hope and the joy of this holiday and how we ourselves change in the season is all because of Your generous love and kindness.

Surrounded by friends or family, awash with a whole host of feelings and emotions, or painfully alone when all around us others are ebullient with the merriment of parties and gatherings, we ask that You would speak to us wherever we are, that we would discover that our true joy is found in knowing that You are among us in all our moments.

May we find reason to rejoice every day in these most wonderful of all gifts, that we should be called the children of God.

And so we are, with all our hopes and dreams, fears and tears, You receive us in Your tender embrace. You have gifted us with the purest and most perfect

of loves, the love of You, our creator, our savior, and our comforter.

So in deepest gratitude for Your overwhelming grace in these festive days and always, we pray in Your holy name.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 6 of House Resolution 1529, the journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 23, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 23, 2022, at 8:25 a.m.

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 51.
That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 52.
That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 4373.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the Senate amendment with an amendment H.R. 2617.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER.

CELEBRATING KEY DEMOCRAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the key accomplishments Democrats will deliver in today's Federal Government funding bill.

Expanding healthcare is a top priority for my district.

Democrats are putting people over politics by investing in our public health system and expanding access to quality healthcare.

Democrats will deliver permanent, mandatory, and continuous coverage for the 40 million children enrolled in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

We are making investments in mental health, which will improve access to medication-assisted treatment, expand our mental health workforce, and increase coverage of mental health services.

Investing in physical and mental health care is investing in our families, our workers, and our communities. It is about putting people over politics. It is about investing in our children.

I am proud that we will be voting on this bill today, and I plan to vote for it.

PRESIDENT ZELENSKYI IS A SYMBOL OF FREEDOM

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, Congress appropriately gave 18 standing ovations

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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